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ADDRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER, ARIMURA MITSUMASA YONAI, AT THE
75TH SESSION OF THE DIET DELIVERED ON FEBRUARY 1, 1940.

Most unexpectedly have I been appointed Prime Minister, which fills me truly with awe. In the face of an unprecedented situation, it is my humble wish to do all in my power to discharge the heavy duties of administering the affairs of state, and I consider it a great honour to have this opportunity of appearing before the 75th Session of the Diet to state the views of the Government.

I am greatly moved that His Majesty the Emperor was pleased to grant a most gracious rescript at the opening ceremony of the Diet. I hope to set our Sovereign's heart at ease by joining you gentlemen in a faithful service in accordance with His Majesty's august command.

It is now 2600 years since the Emperor Jimmu ascended the Imperial Throne. Looking up to the lofty ideal on which our Empire was founded, and retracing the glorious course of our national history, the whole nation with one accord should render a loyal and patriotic service to guard and maintain the prosperity of the Imperial Throne coeval with heaven and earth. It is now ^{necessary} necessary, I believe, to clarify more than ever the concept of our national policy enhance the fundamental spirit of our nation, and deepen the people's national consciousness. Since a firm concept of the national polity is the basis of all national policies, the clarification of that concept is an obvious necessity-- which is felt all the more keenly in this 2,600th year of our nation's founding and at this grave hour ^{of our} country's history.

Two and a half years have passed since the outbreak of the China affair. Our sincere gratitude is due to the officers and men of our Imperial forces for their heroic and brilliant achievements on all

fronts, while we mourn from the depth of our hearts those who have given their lives to the country. At the same time the Government desire to express their profound thanks also to the people at home who by their enthusiastic and unfailing labours have fed our soldiers from the cares and anxieties about home.

Japan's basic policy that have already been formulated for the settlement of the China Affair is immutable. The Government are determined to dispose of the present situation in accordance with this policy, by taking into consideration the various circumstances both at home and abroad, and by putting forth positive efforts in every possible direction.

With the development of the present Affair, there has arisen a movement in various parts of China for "Peace and National Salvation," and a new Chinese Central Government under the leadership of Mr. Wang Ching-wei is expected to be established in the not very distant future. Japan is ready to extend a wholehearted support and co-operation toward facilitating the formation of this new Government.

The international situation of the world has become extremely complex since last September when war broke out in Europe. It is by no means an easy task to foretell the outcome of this conflict. The Japanese Government have early declared their policy not to be involved therein but to concentrate on a settlement of the China Affair, and we will adhere firmly to this policy in the future. It is our intention to adjust our relations with other Powers, while maintaining firmly our independent standpoint. All questions that may arise in connection with the European War will be dealt with accordingly.

In order to fulfil our mission of establishing a new order in East Asia in accordance with our conviction, it is imperative that we should concentrate ^{the} total power of the nation and seek to strengthen the national defense power. To that end, the repletion of armaments, the enhancement of national morale, and the assurance of the wartime livelihood of the people are indispensable.

It is hardly necessary to say that the repletion of armaments is essential in order to meet the present international situation. History shows that whenever an emergency arises, our national spirit is most emphatically manifested to advance the prestige and fortune of the nation. It is incumbent upon us to leave no stone unturned in order to promote loyalty and bravery on the home front as well as to replenish and demonstrate our nation's powers, for which are required the inculcation of the spirit of reverence for deities and respect for ancestors, the renovation of national education and the improvement of the people's physical strength. The Government will exert their utmost efforts to attain those ends.

For the purpose of developing our economic strength we must seek to expand our production power and promote our foreign trade, and at the same time to expedite the enforcement of a comprehensive planned economy, covering Japan, Manchoukuo and China. For a successful operation of the current wartime economy it is essential that we should, under the low prices policy, to take measures of various kinds for both increased production and proper distribution of goods for which it is necessary that the nation in unity should put forth even greater efforts, while the various measures of economic control must be strengthened and executed smoothly through the co-operation of both the Government and people.

The Government will do their utmost for assuring the wartime livelihood of the people. With regard to Rice and other necessities of life, we are planning to insure their production to the required amounts, and to revise proper means of distribution so as to insure the supply of these commodities. However, it is quite natural that today when we are engaged in the accomplishment of a stupendous enterprise unparalleled in history the people should be forced to endure a curtailment of consumption that may well be intolerable in normal times. I hope that the entire nation will keep alive their wartime consciousness to the fullest degree, resolve to observe the ethics of wartime economy, and exercise frugality in their daily lives, and otherwise to meet any contingency that may arise.

With regard to the 1940 budget, the Government have adopted the one which was compiled by the previous Cabinet, and which is submitted to you for approval. As for the taxation system, we have decided to carry out the necessary revisions in all lines of national and local taxes with a view to readjusting and consolidating the system in consonance with the financial and economic conditions of our country in the midst of a longterm construction.

In order to carry out the various policies I have mentioned, the Government must rely on the understanding and the support of the people who are really united and resolute in their conviction. It is most important that in order to accomplish the colossal task of building up a new Asia, our people should rise as one man and fortify their wartime stand and manifest fully their traditional spirit of loyalty and patriotism. The budget and the various bills submitted to you are all based upon the immediate needs of the day. In deliberating on them you will, I hope, appreciate the intentions of the

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Government, and give a speedy approval.

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, I. HAYASHI, Kaoru, Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached in English consisting of 4 pages and entitled "Address by the Prime Minister, Admiral Mitsumasa Yonai, at the 75th Session of the Diet, delivered on February 1, 1940." is an exact and true copy of an official translation of the Japanese Foreign Office.

Certified at Tokyo,
on this 14th day of January, 1947.

(Signed) K. Hayashi
Signature of Official

Witness : (Signed) Nagasharu Odo

not used

第七十五回帝國議會ニ於ケル米内内閣総大臣演説

(昭和十五年二月一日)

今回國ラモ大命ヲ拜シマシテ、誠ニ恐懼ノ至リデアリマス。末會有ノ時
局ニ際シ、渾身ノ努力ヲ捧ケテ國政變遷ノ重責ヲ承シグイト存シマス。茲
ニ第七十五回帝國議會ニ臨ミ、政府ノ所信ヲ披瀝スルノ機會ヲ得マシタコ
トハ私ノ最モ光榮トスル所デアリマス。曁クモ天皇陛下ニ於カセラレマシ
テハ、今期議會ノ開院式ニ當リマシテ、特ニ優渥ナル勅語ヲ賜ハリ、誠ニ
感激ニ堪ヘマセヌ。私ハ諸君ト共ニ臨ミテ聖旨ヲ奉戴シ、一意赤誠ヲ竭シ

以テ宸襟ヲ安ンシ奉リグイト存スルノデアリマス。
神武天皇即位以來茲ニ二千六百年、今や肇國ノ大理想ヲ仰キ、國史ノ成跡
ヲ顧ミ、國ヲ譽ケテ報國ノ忠誠ヲ盡シ、愈々天壤無窮ノ皇運ヲ扶養シ奉リ
グイト存スルノデアリマス。コノ時ニ當リ愈々國體觀念ヲ明徴ニシ肇國ノ
精神ヲ昂揚シテ、國民的自覺ヲ堅クスルノ要アリト信シマス。鞏固ナル國
體觀念コソ諸般ノ方策ノ根柢デアリ。之ヲ明徴ニスヘキコトハ申ス迄モナ
イ所デアリマス。カ、殊ニ紀元二千六百年ニ際會シ、重大時局ニ當面シテ、

一層ソノ意ヲ深ウスルノテアリマス。

願ミマスレハ文部事務勸告以來、早クモ二年有半ヲ経過シマシタカ、各地ニ奮闘シ、雄シキ結果ヲ收メタル皇軍將兵ノ勞苦ニ當シマシテハ、衷心ヨリ感謝致シマスルト共ニ、國面ノ美點ニ對シマシテハ深ク哀悼ノ意ヲ表スル次第テアリマス。又コレ等前線ノ將兵ニ後援ノ愛ヒナカラシメタル饒後ノ國民ノ斷エサル熱誠ト努力トニ當シマシテモ、眞ニ感謝ニ堪ヘナイノテアリマス。

文部事務處理ニ關シ、既ニ決定セラレタル範圍ノ根本方針ハ稍も動ノモノテアリマス。政府ハ此ノ根本方針ニ則リ、軍國ナル決意ノ下ニ、内外ノ關係ヲモ考慮シ手堅ク進シテ積極的ナル努力ヲ傾注シ、斷乎時局ノ急變ヲ期シテ居ル次第テアリマス。

豫テ事變ノ進展ニ俟ビ、和平政策ノ氣運ハ支那各方面ニ起ツテ居リマシタトコロ、今ヤ汪精衛氏ヲ中心トスル新中央政府ノ樹立將ニ近カラントスルニ到ツタノテアリマス。當ニト對シマシテハコノ新中央政府カ順ニ成立スルカ爲ニ、全國ノ支持ト協力トヲ寄マサル次第テアリマス。

ツテ現下ノ國際情勢ヲ觀マスルニ、昨年九月以洲戰事勃發以來、世界列國ノ關係ハ極メテ複雜トナリマシテ、之カ關係ハ容易ニ豫斷ヲ許サヌモノカアリマス。コノ間ニ處シ、我ニ對シハ之ニ介入セス、寧ラ支那事變ノ解決ニ邁進スルノ方針ヲ闡明致シタノアアリマスルカ、コノ方針ハ今後モ尙ホ堅持スル考ヘテアリマス。歐列國トノ關係ニ於テハ、我ニ對シテ然トシテ自主的立場ニ立ツテ、國家ノ利益ヲ固リタイト志シマス。又歐洲戰亂ニ伴ヒ起ルコトアルヘキ事必ニ付キマシテハ、以上ノ方針ノ下ニ處スル考ヘテアリマス。

我國ノ所信ニ基キ更ニ新秩序建設ノ使命ヲ負ヒシテ、向ニ於テハ國家ノ總力ヲ集注シテ、國防ノ強化ヲ期スルコトカ、現下與緊ノ要務テアリマス。而シテ國防力ノ強化ノ爲メニハ、軍備ノ充實、國民精神ノ昂揚、經濟力ノ發展、及ヒ戰時國民生活ノ維持ハ俱クヘカラサルモノト信シマス。現下ノ國際情勢ニ對處スルカ爲メニ、軍備ノ充實ヲ必長トスルコトハ、今更申ス迄モナイ所テアリマス。又我カ國民精神ハ非常時ニ際シ常ニ力強く發揚セラレ、以テ國防ヲ伸張シタルコトハ、國史ノ上ニ明ラカテアリマス。

息勇義烈ノ精神ハ、戦後ニ於テモ益々之ヲ昂揚シ、国力ノ充實發揮ニ道満
ナキヲ期セネハタラヌト思フノテアリマス。敬神崇祖ノ思想ヲ涵養シ、國
民教育ヲ刷新シ、國民体力ノ向上ヲ圖ルハ、コノ要務ニ應スル要諦ヲ成ス
モノテアリマシテ、政府ハ国力之充實ヲ期シテ居ル次第テアリマス。
經濟力ノ發展ヲ圖リマスルカ爲メニハ、生産力ノ増充ト貿易ノ振興トニ力
ヲ盡スト共ニ、日進支ヲ進スル經濟ノ綜合計劃實施ヲ促進セネハナリマセ
ン。

而シテ他物價政策ノ下ニ穀價ノ方策ヲ圖シ、以テ物價ノ増進並ヒニ配給ノ
適正ヲ期スルコトハ、戦下戰時經濟政策ノ要諦テアリマシテ、コノ目的ヲ
達成スル爲メニハ、第一農一農ノ努力ヲ必要ト致シマスルト共ニ、官民
協力各業ノ經濟活動ヲ強化シ、之カを通じて國產ヲ圖リタイト考ヘルノテア
リマス。

政府ハ又戰時國民生活ノ確保ニ十分ナル力ヲ注シ、米穀ソノ他ノ重要生活
必需品ニ關シテハ、必要量ノ生産ヲ確保シ、配給ヲ適正ナラシメ、以テ供
給ヲ確保セントスルモノテアリマス。

併シナカラ是等勸業ニ付キマシテモ、曠古ノ大事業完遂ノ爲メニハ、平時ニ於テハ忍ヒ難キ節約ヲモ餘儀ナクセラルコトアルヘキハ當然デアリマスカラ、全國カ戰時狀態ニ徴シ、戰時經濟道德ヲ遵守シテ其ノ生活ヲ肅肅スル等、之ニ對應スル方策ヲ講シ、不逞ノ僥倖ヲ以テコノ國ニ處セラレムコトヲ希望スルモノデアリマス。

昭和十五年度豫算ニ付キマシテハ、以前ハ首内閣ニ於テ編成セラレタルモノヲ踏襲シ、之ニ議會ニ提出シテ實現ヲ仰クコトト欲シマシタ。而シテ租税ノ制度ニツイテハ、長官會議ノ豫定ニ在ル現下ノ財政經濟事情ニ即應スル爲メ、ソノ整備確立ヲ主眼トシテ、國稅地方稅ノ全體ニ亙リ必要ナル改正ヲ行フコトト欲シタ次第デアリマス。

以上申請ハマシタ各款ノ方策ヲ實現欲スニ付キマシテハ、眞ニ舉國一致、不撓ノ信念ニ基ク國民ノ理解ト協力トニ俟タネハナラスト存シマス。其間ノ大事業ヲ完遂スルカ爲メニハ、且ラ事ケテ更ニ戰時經濟ヲ強化シ、進ンテ義勇公ニ奉スル聲巨民ノ傳統的本領ヲ、遺憾ナク發揮スルコトカ要モ肝要ナリト信スル次第デアリマス。今同提出ノ豫算案並ニ各款ノ法律案

ハ、即チ現下緊急ナル事ニ應スル爲メノモノテアリマシテ、諸君ニ於カ
レマシテハ何卒政府ノ意ノ在ル所ヲ諒トセラレ、御審議ノ上速ニ御賛ヲ與
ヘラレンコトヲ切望スルモノテアリマス。

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Certified at Tokyo,
on this 14th day of January, 1947.

(Signed) K. Hayashi
Signature of Official

Witness : (Signed) Nagaharu Odo

Extracts from the "References to the Problems of Manchuria and Mongolia"
- Edited by G.H.Q. of the Kwantung Army in July, 1929. -

1. It is showed the population by Prefectures in the map.
2. It is showed the Koreans with round brackets.
3. ● is meant the Residence in where more than one thousand Japanese live.
4. It is only showed the well known number of Koreans in Manchuria, and it is said that their population there about 700,000-800,000 including not resistered at Japanese authorities.



